

Public Notice for 401 Certification
Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District – Mad River Operations

Humboldt and Trinity Counties

On April 30, 2003, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region received an application for Water Quality Certification from the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District (HBMWD) for their Mad River operations in Humboldt and Trinity Counties. These operations are necessary for the continued operation of the HBMWD's pumping facilities at Essex, near Arcata, and the hydroelectric power plant at Ruth Lake. The proposed project causes disturbances to waters of the United States associated with the Mad River and Ruth Lake.

The proposed project includes activities associated with the HBMWD's ongoing operation and maintenance of existing structures and facilities on the Mad River. These activities include: annual channel dredging near the direct diversion inlet, construction and maintenance of temporary access roads and platforms, berm construction, bank protection, and dredging sediment from near Matthews Dam. The Board of Directors of the HBMWD signed a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project in January of 2001.

Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341). Staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this notice. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Roy O'Connor at (707) 576-2670.